Claim 22 defines a camera control system for selecting one of a plurality of controllable camera apparatus connected to a network, and for controlling a video display and a camera. The camera apparatuses may be used by a plurality of users at different terminals. Means are provided for obtaining information concerning the statuses of each of the camera apparatuses. Camera-status display means are provided for distinguishably displaying the used statuses of at least two of the camera apparatuses on the basis of the condition that the camera apparatuses are used by another terminal, the camera apparatuses are used by the user's own terminal and the camera apparatuses are not used by anyone.

Claim 41 is a method for selecting one of a plurality of controllable camera apparatuses connected to a network and for controlling a video display and a camera comprising obtaining information concerning the used statuses of at least two of the camera apparatuses and distinguishably displaying the used statuses of at least two of the cameras, on the basis described above with respect to claim 22.

Morgan discloses a control system for a closed circuit television network for a single user which identifies for that single user where the active cameras are located and each camera's target. (Col. 2, lines 11-15).

Morgan does not show or suggest providing a camera-status display means which distinguishably displays used statuses of at least two of the camera apparatuses to indicate that: 1) the camera is used by another user at another terminal; 2) the camera is used by the user's own terminal; and 3) the camera is not used by anyone.

The Examiner asserted that it would have been obvious to modify Morgan to include a plurality of user stations to provide a plurality of monitoring locations. The

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Examiner further asserted that it would have been obvious to distinguishably display the used statuses of a camera to indicate to the users that the camera is being operated by another user.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is incorrect. Morgan does not need a camera-status display means, as claimed, to display used statuses concerning the use of cameras by other terminals because Morgan's system has only one user station for one user. Providing additional user terminals for additional users and camera status display means operating as claimed would require major changes to Morgan's system. The Examiner has identified no teaching or suggestion in Morgan or the other cited references to make such major modifications or how to do so.

The changes proposed by the Examiner would change the nature of Morgan's system. Throughout the specification, Morgan only refers to use by a single operator. In the security field, which Morgan asserts is the primary use of closed circuit video camera systems, Morgan asserts that a single operator views the security cameras. (Col. 1, lines 13-25). While visual overload is a problem, Morgan states that "the general practice in the industry is to reduce the number of display monitors." (Col. 1, lines 45-55). Morgan does not teach that the number of users may be increased nor does that appear to be the practice in the art. Morgan, therefore, teaches away from the changes proposed by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has improperly used hindsight to recreate the present invention

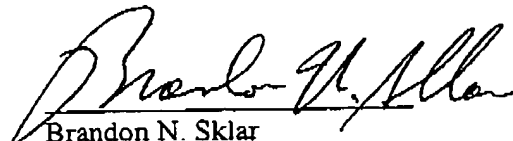Claims 22 and 41 are not, therefore, obvious in light of Morgan.

Claims 23 and 42 are dependent on claims 22 and 41, respectively, and are allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to those claims

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Withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the claims are respectively requested.

A petition and fee for a one-month extension of time are filed herewith. If any additional fee is due, please charge deposit account number 13-4500, Attorney Docket No. 1232-4253US1.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: **4/24/00**

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